

Inexpensive Ways to Say 'I Love You'



By Maria Darbenzio

You don't have to break the bank to show your significant other how much you truly care about them. When it comes to money, let's face it, not everyone has a chunk of extra spending money on hold for elaborate gifts. There are plenty of ways to say 'I love you' inexpensively or without spending anything at all. Keep your relationship and bank account in check with some of these ways to express your love and appreciation.

1. Alphabet of appreciation: Take the time to write down the ABCs of love for your partner. All you need is a pen and a

piece of paper. For each letter, list something that you love about your sweetie until you've gone through all 26 letters. At the end, sign it with a kiss and leave it somewhere you know he'll see it.

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2. Mirror messages: Before your sweetie wakes up to take a shower, take a q-tip and Rain-x anti-fog to write a cute message on the mirror. When they step out, the fog will form everywhere except your little note, leaving them with a nice little surprise to start their day. If you have no use for the Rain-x afterwards, you can go a more traditional route instead with the use of lipstick writing. It may be a bit on the messier side, but it gets the point across just the same.

3. Post-it notes: Much like the alphabet of appreciation, write down what you love about your partner or how much you can't wait for them to get home from work. Slip them into their wallet, in their car, or into their briefcase. Spread them around so they can keep finding them throughout the day. It's an easy way to keep a smile on their face all day long.

4. Romantic dinner: Everyone loves a nice romantic home cooked meal. The time and effort alone shows just how much you're willing to do for your significant other. Whether you chose to cook together as a couple, or you surprise you hunny with a hot meal as they walk in from work, it's a classic way to show your love. Don't forget to light some candles and grab a bottle of wine to tie it all together.

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5. Rent a movie: In the age of Netflix and On Demand television, "renting" a movie has never been easier. Cuddle up with a blanket, and your sweetheart, on the couch and pick a movie you've both dying to see. If you're up to date with the latest films, why not take a jump back in time to watch some

of the romantic must-see movies. Grab some popcorn and watch the romance between Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan blossom in *You've Got Mail*.

What are some inexpensive ways you show your love? Tell us in the comments below!